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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 ROME 004292

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR OES/SAT/JULIE KARNER
NATO PASS SES-4 FOR MELVIN FLACK
USDOC PASS OFFICE OF SPACE COMMERCIALIZATION

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/11/2007

TAGS: [TSPA](#) [TSPL](#) [ECON](#) [TSPL](#) [ECON](#) [TSPL](#) [ECON](#) [IT](#) [ITTSPA](#) [ITTSPA](#)

SUBJECT: GPS/GALILEO CONSULTATIONS IN ITALY
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CLASSIFIED BY: ACTING ECONOMIC MINISTER COUNSELOR DAVID MULENEX FOR REA
SONS 1.5 (B,D)

11. (C) SUMMARY: DURING 23-24 JULY CONSULTATIONS IN ROME, ITALIAN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES PROVIDED A DIVERSE SET OF NUANCED RESPONSES TO US CONCERNS OVER THE POSSIBLE OVERLAY OF THE GPS M-CODE BY GALILEO PRS. WHILE ITALIAN TECHNICAL EXPERTS WORKING ON GALILEO EXPRESSED SOME SYMPATHY TO US CONCERNS AND A WILLINGNESS TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE, THOSE OFFICIALS DEALING WITH GOI GALILEO POLICY RESPONDED IN A MORE AMBIGUOUS MANNER. BUT EVEN THEY ACKNOWLEDGED USG CONCERNS, EVEN IF THEY WERE NONCOMMITTAL ON A WAY FORWARD TO FINDING A SOLUTION. ALTHOUGH THE USG GPS DELEGATION MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF A VARIETY OF GOI AGENCIES, THE ITALIANS HAD CLEARLY COORDINATED THEIR POSITION AS A RESULT OF HAVING BEEN BRIEFED IN DETAIL ABOUT A DRAFT REPORT ON GPS-GALILEO INTERRELATIONSHIP PRODUCED BY AN AD HOC WORKING GROUP OF THE NATO C3 BOARD. ON THE WHOLE, THE ITALIANS SEEM COMMITTED TO GPS-GALILEO INTEROPERABILITY, BUT IT IS UNCLEAR HOW THIS WILLINGNESS WILL TRANSLATE INTO ITALIAN ASSISTANCE IN ACHIEVING A FAVORABLE RESOLUTION OF THE M-CODE OVERLAY ISSUE. END SUMMARY.

13. (SBU) OES/SAT JULIE KARNER AND USNATO DIRECTOR OF THE COMMUNICATIONS ELECTRONICS DIVISION MELVIN FLACK, ACCOMPANIED BY ESTOFF LORENZO MARTINI, MET WITH OFFICIALS OF THE ITALIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA), THE ITALIAN MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION (MOT) AND THE ITALIAN SPACE AGENCY (ASI). IN ALL THREE MEETINGS, THE US DELEGATION MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE USG IS NOT OPPOSED TO EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT OF THE GALILEO
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GLOBAL NAVIGATIONAL SATELLITE SYSTEM (GNSS) IN PRINCIPLE BUT WISHES TO ASSURE THAT GPS AND GALILEO ARE FULLY INTEROPERABLE SO THAT GNSS CIVILIAN CONSUMERS OBTAIN THE BEST POSSIBLE SERVICE AT THE LOWEST PRICE. YET, THE USG CAN NOT ACCEPT THE OVERLAY OF A PORTION OF THE U.S. GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM (GPS) MILITARY SIGNAL (M-CODE) BY THE PROPOSED GALILEO PUBLICLY REGULATED SIGNAL (PRS) BECAUSE OF THE RISKS TO U.S. AND NATO MILITARY CAPABILITIES. THE DELEGATION STRESSED THAT WHILE THE USG WAS EAGER TO COLLABORATE WITH THE EUROPEANS ON GALILEO INTEROPERABILITY, THE M-CODE OVERLAY ISSUE WOULD BE AN OBSTACLE TO FUTURE USG COOPERATION IF IT REMAINS UNRESOLVED. MR. FLACK ANALYZED THE POTENTIAL DETRIMENTAL IMPACT TO NATO WAR-FIGHTING CAPABILITIES AND THE RISKS TO NATO TROOPS AS A RESULT OF AN M-CODE OVERLAY. IN PARTICULAR, MR. FLACK EXPLAINED THE POTENTIAL HARM TO NATO OBJECTIVES AND PERSONNEL IF AN ADVERSARY OBTAINED THE CAPACITY TO USE GALILEO SIGNALS FOR ITS OWN WAR-FIGHTING CAPABILITIES. CONCERNS OVER THE ROBUSTNESS OF ENCRYPTION TO BE USED BY PRS AND THE POSSIBILITY OF A WIDE DISSEMINATION OF ACCESS TO PRS AMONG NON-GOVERNMENTAL USERS REPRESENT AN INHERENT RISK OF THE PROLIFERATION OF GNSS CAPABILITY TO POSSIBLE NATO ADVERSARIES. BY OVERLAYING THE M-CODE, NATO FORCES WOULD DEGRADE THEIR ABILITY TO USE GNSS SIGNALS WHILE TRYING TO DENY PRS TO AN ADVERSARY IN THE THEATER OF OPERATIONS. THE ALTERNATIVE, CHANGING THE PRS ENCRYPTION KEYS TO DENY ACCESS TO THE ADVERSARY, WOULD BE DEPENDENT ON NATO'S ABILITY TO OBTAIN A RAPID CONSENSUS FOR COOPERATION AMONG ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION (EU) AND THE EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY (ESA), SOME OF WHOM ARE NOT NATO MEMBERS. IN ADDITION, MS. KARNER EXPRESSED CONCERNS ABOUT THE EUROPEAN COMMITMENT TO INTEROPERABILITY, NOTING AN APPARENT EUROPEAN
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PREFERENCE TO PURSUING INDEPENDENCE RATHER THAN INTERDEPENDENCE IN THE AREAS OF TIMING, GEODESY AND SIGNAL STRUCTURE.

14. (SBU) AT THE MFA, THE DELEGATION MET WITH COUNSELOR ENRICO GUICCIARDI, HEAD OF SPACE COOPERATION AFFAIRS OF THE MFA'S DIRECTORATE OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION. GUICCIARDI ACKNOWLEDGED THE USG'S CONCERNS BUT DID NOT ADDRESS THEM IN DETAIL, SHIELDING HIMSELF BEHIND HIS LACK OF TECHNICAL EXPERTISE. HE BELIEVED THAT USG CONCERNS WERE SOMEWHAT PREMATURE SINCE GALILEO WAS AT SUCH AN EARLY STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT. HE PROVIDED AN OVERVIEW OF THE JOINT

15. (C) ON 24 JULY, THE DELEGATION MET WITH COUNSELOR RENATO LIBASSI, A SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GOI'S INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON

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INFO	LOG-00	NR-00	AGRE-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	CEA-01	CIAE-00
	CTME-00	INL-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	PERC-00	SRPP-00
	EB-00	EUR-00	EXIM-01	E-00	FAAE-00	VC-00	FRB-00
	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	ITC-01	L-00	VCE-00	NASA-01
	AC-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OMB-01	OPIC-01	PM-00	ACE-00
	SP-00	IRM-00	SSO-00	SS-00	STR-00	TRSE-00	T-00
	USIE-00	EPAE-00	PMB-00	DRL-02	G-00	SAS-00	/011W
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EU TO COME TO TERMS WITH THE UNITED STATES OVER GALILEO AND
IMPLIED THAT FULL US ENGAGEMENT IN GPS-GALILEO
INTEROPERABILITY "MIGHT AFFECT DESIGN." HE NOTED THAT THE
EUROPEANS WILL LOOK VERY CAREFULLY AT THE ISSUES OF ACCESS
CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF PRS ENCRYPTION. ALTHOUGH HE
CLAIMED NOT TO HAVE SEEN A COPY OF THE NATO C3 BOARD'S
WORKING GROUP'S DRAFT REPORT ON GPS-GALILEO
INTERRELATIONSHIP, HE ADMITTED TO HAVING BEEN BRIEFED ON ITS
CONTENTS.

16. (C) LIBASSI MADE AN OFFHAND COMMENT REGARDING THE ROLE OF CHINA, WHICH ALLOWED THE US DELEGATION THE OPPORTUNITY TO ASK FOR CLARIFICATION ON THE NATURE OF CHINESE PARTICIPATION IN GALILEO THROUGH A PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENT WITH ESA. LIBASSI RESPONDED THAT THE ROLE OF ESA'S NON-EU COLLABORATORS SUCH AS CHINA COULD PLAY IN GALILEO HAD NOT BEEN DECIDED. HE SEEMED TO UNDERSTAND THAT EXTENSIVE CHINESE PARTICIPATION IN GALILEO WOULD HEIGHTEN US CONCERNS OVER THE POTENTIAL OF NON-NATO COUNTRIES TO HAVE A DE FACTO VETO POWER OVER NATO DECISION-MAKING IN A CRISIS THROUGH PRS OVERLAY OF THE M-CODE. IN ADDITION, HE MADE AN OBLIQUE COMMENT REGARDING "NATO BECOMING AN ASSISTANCE GROUP" OVER TIME. IT WAS NOT CLEAR WHAT HE MEANT BY THIS STATEMENT, AND THE US DELEGATION DID NOT HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESS HIM FOR CLARIFICATION. (EMBASSY COMMENT: WE VIEW THIS STATEMENT TO REFLECT LIBASSI'S PERSONAL OPINION ONLY. HE DOES NOT HAVE ANY COMPETENCY IN NATO AFFAIRS, SINCE HE DOES NOT HAVE ANY DIRECT ROLE IN ITALIAN NATO POLICYMAKING, NOR DOES HE SEEM TO HAVE ANY EXPERTISE IN THIS AREA. END COMMENT.)

17. (C) AT ASI, THE DELEGATION MET WITH THE DIRECTOR OF
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EXTERNAL RELATIONS, ROMEO PERNICE, AND THE TWO CHIEF ASI REPRESENTATIVES TO THE ESA AND EU TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS ON GALILEO, DR. FRANCO MARCONICCHIO AND DR. FRANCO MARUCCI. MARCONICCHIO AND MARUCCI ARE DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE ITALIAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT OF GALILEO. THIS DISCUSSION WAS MUCH MORE OPEN AND DIRECT WITH REGARD TO THE ITALIAN RESPONSE. THE ASI REPRESENTATIVES, ON THE WHOLE, EXPRESSED A SINCERE DESIRE TO COOPERATE WITH THE UNITED STATES ON GPS-GALILEO INTEROPERABILITY. MARCONICCHIO, IN PARTICULAR, ASKED IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO CONTINUE US-EUROPEAN TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS ON THE NON-PRS GALILEO SERVICES AND SEPARATE THEM FROM THE M-CODE OVERLAY ISSUE. WHILE THE USG PLANS TO GO FORWARD WITH GPS-GALILEO TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS, THE M-CODE OVERLAY ISSUE, IF IT REMAINS UNRESOLVED, WILL EVENTUALLY BECOME AN IMPEDIMENT TO FUTURE USG COOPERATION WITH GALILEO. FROM ASI'S PERSPECTIVE, ON THE WHOLE, US-EUROPEAN TECHNICAL COOPERATION ON GPS-GALILEO ARE PROCEEDING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. ASI IS COMMITTED TO COMPLETE INTEROPERABILITY WITH GPS AS BEING A FUNDAMENTAL GOAL IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF GALILEO. THE ASI TEAM NOTED THAT A PRELIMINARY SYSTEM DESIGN REVIEW FOR GALILEO WAS COMPLETED THE WEEK OF 14-20 JULY 2002 BUT THE EXACT CAPABILITIES OF PRS HAD NOT YET BEEN DECIDED. WHATEVER THEIR PERSONNEL PERCEPTIONS OF THE MERITS OF THE U.S. CONCERNS ABOUT THE

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ACTION OES-01

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AGRE-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	CEA-01	CIAE-00
	CTME-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	PERC-00	SRPP-00	EB-00
	EUR-00	EXIM-01	E-00	FAAE-00	VC-00	FRB-00	H-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	ITC-01	L-00	VCE-00	NASA-01	AC-01
	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OMB-01	OPIC-01	PM-00	ACE-00	SP-00
	IRM-00	SSO-00	SS-00	STR-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00
	PMB-00	DRL-02	G-00	SAS-00	/011W		

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R 041346Z SEP 02
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5692
USDOC WASHDC
USMISSION USNATO
INFO EU INTEREST COLLECTIVE
AMCONSUL FLORENCE
AMCONSUL MILAN
AMCONSUL NAPLES

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RISKS OF THE M-CODE OVERLAY (MARUCCI SEEMED TO BE PARTICULARLY SKEPTICAL), THEY ALL ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THEY UNDERSTOOD THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH THE UNITED STATES VIEWS THIS ISSUE. THE ASI TEAM ALSO ADMITTED TO HAVING BEEN BRIEFED ON THE CONTENTS OF THE NATO C3 REPORT BEFORE THEIR MEETING WITH THE US DELEGATION.

18. (C) EMBASSY COMMENT: THE ITALIANS WERE FAIRLY UNANIMOUS IN THEIR DESIRE TO CONTINUE A DIALOGUE WITH THE UNITED STATES WITH THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF REACHING A COMPREHENSIVE LEVEL OF INTEROPERABILITY BETWEEN GPS-GALILEO. THE GOI DOES NOT SEEM TO HAVE A DEEPLY VESTED INTEREST IN PRS OVERLAYING THE GPS M-CODE ISSUE BUT DECLINED TO COMMIT OPENLY TO SEEKING A RESOLUTION OF THE ISSUE, OSTENSIBLY TO MAINTAIN EU UNITY. THE ASI TECHNICAL EXPERTS SEEMED TO BE THE MOST WILLING TO SEEK A RESOLUTION, WHICH SUGGESTS THAT THE DECISION TO OVERLAY THE M-CODE IS BEING DRIVEN BY POLITICAL RATHER THAN TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS, AT LEAST IN ITALY. UNFORTUNATELY, IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE FOR THE DELEGATION TO MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ITALIAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, WHICH MIGHT HAVE A MORE VESTED INTEREST IN THE SANCTITY OF THE M-CODE. END COMMENT.

19. (SBU) OES/SAT JULIE KARNER CLEARED ON THIS MESSAGE. USNATO DIRECTOR OF THE COMMUNICATIONS ELECTRONICS DIVISION MELVIN FLACK WAS UNABLE TO COORDINATE ON THIS CABLE PRIOR TO ITS TRANSMISSION.
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